

APPENDIX K:
STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

Public Input from the Strategic Plan Stakeholder Questionnaire

The Office of Policy and Planning, as part of the continuing process of strategic planning, invited about 500 stakeholders from around the state to provide input about the most important public health issues and concerns that the Texas Department of Health (TDH) would face during the next five years, as well as their recommendations about how TDH should address those issues.

The stakeholder group included other Health and Human Services agencies, members of advisory boards, regional and local public health officials, and community-based providers. In addition, the same invitation was extended to TDH employees. A letter and an open-ended questionnaire were sent by William R. Archer III, M.D., Texas Commissioner of Health, in December of 1999. The questions asked touched on:

- Identification of new or emerging issues that TDH during the next five years;
- Identification of barriers that TDH will face in dealing with those issues; and
- Recommendations for actions, policies and procedures that TDH should use in dealing with those issues.

A total of 50 responses were received from a mail-out of about 500 pieces. The bulk of the responses came from local health departments and other community based organizations and providers. Many respondents chose a narrative style, rather than short responses. The responses received conveyed a wide variety of concerns, including:

- Issues that are specific to particular TDH programs;
- Cross-cutting public health issues; and
- Agency management and relations with stakeholders.

TDH will work with specific programs and units to address the major issues and concerns raised by stakeholders, and study how recommendations offered can be incorporated and acted upon when appropriate and feasible during the ongoing cycle of strategic and operational planning.

